

many of my colleagues will learn about situations similar to Denise's, and I urge you to consider cosponsoring the IPA to advance this important crime fighting tool.

SMALL BUSINESS PAPERWORK REDUCTION ACT AMENDMENTS OF 1998

SPEECH OF

HON. LOUIS STOKES

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, March 26, 1998

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 3310) to amend chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code, for the purpose of facilitating compliance by small businesses with certain Federal paperwork requirements, and to establish a task force to examine the feasibility of streamlining paperwork requirements applicable to small businesses:

Mr. STOKES. Mr. Chairman, I rise in opposition to H.R. 3310, the Small Business Paperwork Reduction Act Amendments of 1998. One of the purposes of the original Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 was to promote prompt dissemination of public information for major Federal agencies which depend on vital information from businesses. However, the proposed amendments will indirectly contradict the original intent.

Although I support the financial relief offered to small businesses in this bill, it would open the door for willful mistakes that would put various elements of Government control and worker safety at a disadvantage. For example, the Pension and Welfare Benefits Administration [PWBA] which depends on reports to ensure proper investing to secure our retirement savings for the future. This bill will weaken the ability of PWBA to protect workers' benefits by undermining current disclosure requirements. Another agency that would be adversely affected is the Drug Enforcement Administration [DEA] which uses business reports in order to detect drug trafficking. This bill would jeopardize reporting requirements that could provide evidence of criminal activity. Our Immigration Department relies on employers to file reports to monitor the hiring of illegal immigrants.

H.R. 3310 would weaken the ability of Federal agencies to receive vital information by making it easier for companies to bypass their responsibility to provide basic statistics needed for regulatory purposes.

In addition to the adverse effects this bill will have on Government regulations, it also places millions of American workers at risk by undermining the hard work of unions across America which have been successful in promoting the safety and health for workers in mines, factories, and other workplaces. These amendments would erode hard-fought protections that have played a significant role in the decreased deaths of workers.

Mr. Speaker, businesses have an obligation to adhere to governmental regulations that protect workers and the American people by building a healthy society which ultimately benefit businesses.

I strongly support our small businesses as they are fundamental to the well being of our society, however, I do not support putting

American workers at physical risk by removing penalties for ignoring the law. I urge my colleagues to defeat this bill.

**IN HONOR OF THE LAKE ERIE
NATURE AND SCIENCE CENTER**

HON. DENNIS J. KUCINICH

OF OHIO

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. KUCINICH. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the dedication celebration of the newly renovated Lake Erie Nature and Science Center (LENSC) in Bay Village, Ohio.

In 1996, more than 124,000 people participated in the Center's programs. Students came from Cuyahoga and Lorain Counties, and other visitors represented 30 states and 11 countries. LENS provides educational programs, wildlife rehabilitation, non-releasable wild animals and exhibits. The Center's goal is to involve individuals of all ages from every background in learning to care for wildlife and the earth in a fun, hands-on way.

LENSC recognized the growing need for more educational programs and exhibits and planned a \$2.3 million renovation project. The dedication ceremony will take place on Saturday, April 4th. Since its founding in the home of Dr. Elberta Wagner Fleming in 1945, LENS has undergone remarkable changes and growth. This newest renovation added a new classroom designed for preschoolers, an event center, an expanded resource center, a new lobby with a nature art mural, a courtyard, volunteer room and a new conference room.

My fellow colleagues, please join me in honoring the accomplishments of the Lake Erie Nature and Science Center.

**TRIBUTE TO THE REVEREND DR.
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

HON. BENJAMIN A. GILMAN

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to take this opportunity to honor the legacy of the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., who, thirty years ago this week was senselessly murdered by an assassin in Memphis, Tennessee.

Dr. King contributed more to the causes of national freedom and equality than any other man or woman of our century. His achievements as an author and as a minister were surpassed only by his leadership, which transformed a torn people into a beacon of strength and solidarity, and united a divided nation under a common creed of brotherhood and mutual prosperity.

It was Dr. King's policy of nonviolent protest which served to open the eyes of the American populace to the horrors of discrimination and police brutality. This policy revealed the Jim Crow laws of the South as hypocritical and unfair, and forced civil rights issues into the national dialectic. It is due to the increased scope and salience of the national civil rights discussion that the movement achieved so much during its decade of greatest accomplishment, from 1957 to 1968.

It was in 1955 that Dr. King made his first mark on the nation, when he organized the

black community of Montgomery, Alabama during a 382-day boycott of the city's bus lines. The boycott saw Dr. King and many other civil rights activists placed in prison as "agitators," but their efforts were rewarded in 1956, when the Supreme Court declared that the segregational practices of the Alabama bus system was unconstitutional, and demanded that blacks be allowed to ride with equal and indistinguishable rights. The result proved the theory of nonviolent protest in practice, and roused the nation to the possibilities to be found through peace and perseverance.

In 1963, Dr. King and his followers faced their most ferocious test, when they set a massive civil rights protest in motion in Birmingham, Alabama. The protest was met with brute force by the local police, and many innocent men and women were injured through the harsh response. However, the strength of the police department worked against the forces of discrimination in the nation, as many Americans came to sympathize with the plight of the blacks through the sight of their irrational and inhumane treatment.

By August of 1963 the civil rights movement had achieved epic proportions, and it was in a triumphant and universal air that Dr. King gave his memorable "I Have a Dream" speech on the steps of the Lincoln Memorial. In the next year, Dr. King was distinguished as Time magazine's Man of the Year for 1963, and he would later be awarded the Nobel Peace Prize for 1964.

Throughout his remaining years, Dr. King continued to lead the nation towards increased peace and unity. He spoke out directly against the Vietnam War, and led the nation's War on Poverty, which he saw as directly involved with the Vietnam struggle. To Dr. King, the international situation was inextricably linked to the domestic, and thus it was only through increased peace and prosperity at home that tranquility would be ensured abroad.

When Dr. King was tragically gunned down in 1968 he had already established himself as a national hero and pioneer. As the years passed, his message continued to gather strength and direction, and it is only in the light of his multi-generational influence that the true effects of his ideas can be measured.

Dr. King was a man who lacked neither vision nor the means to express it. His image of a strong, united nation overcoming the obstacles of poverty and inequality continues to provide us with an ideal picture of the "United" States which will fill the hearts of Americans with feelings of brotherhood and common purposes for years to come.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to appropriately remember the significant deeds of the Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., and to join in a moment of silent meditation in his honor.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. CORRINE BROWN

OF FLORIDA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Monday, March 30, 1998

Ms. BROWN of Florida. Mr. Speaker, I was away from the House with the President on the historical visit to Africa. I was unable to vote on Rollcall votes 68 through 80. If I had been here I would have voted as follows: